

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03

INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02

CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 AGR-05 PA-01 PRS-01

NSC-05 SS-15 STR-04 CEA-01 /081 W

----- 011087

R 050840Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY MASERU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5579

INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, LT, EEC

SUBJECT: LESOTHO GETS RAND 30 MILLION COMMITMENT FROM EEC

1. IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH AN EEC MISSION DURING PAST WEEK, GOL HAS SECURED COMMITMENT OF 30 MILLION RAND IN ASSISTANCE OVER NEXT FOUR YEARS. DETAILS OF AGREEMENT HAVE NOT BEEN MADE PUBLIC, BUT EMBASSY HAS OBTAINED FOLLOWING FIGURES FROM RELIABLE SOURCES.

2. GRANT AID: A. RAND 7 MILLION WILL BE PROVIDED FOR AGRICULTURE PROJECTS, INCLUDING 3 MILLION IN BASIC AGRICULTURE SERVICES AND 4 MILLION IN LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT.

B. 4.5 MILLION RAND WILL GO TO RURAL DEVELOPMENT, INCLUDING 1.4 MILLION TO UPGRADE RURAL POSTAL SERVICES.

C. 8.6 MILLION GOES TO INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS, INCLUDING 4 MILLION TOWARD AN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, 3 MILLION FOR ROAD PAVING, AND 1.6 MILLION FOR INDUSTRIAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS.

D. 3.3 MILLION WILL GO FOR STUDIES, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE,

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AND TRAINING.

3. IN ADDITION, A FORTY-YEAR LOAN OF 4 OR 5 MILLION WILL BE MADE TO LESOTHO NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, AND SOME 3 MILLION RAND WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR REGIONAL PROJECTS.

4. MEMBERS OF EEC TEAM SAID A PERMANENT EEC MISSION, CONSISTING PROBABLY OF ONE MAN, WOULD BE ESTABLISHED IN BLS STATES, INDICATIONS ARE HE WILL BE BASED IN MASERU.

5. COMMENT: EEC TEAM WAS HIGHLY IMPRESSED BY GOL PLANNING AND PRESENTATION OF REQUESTS, ESPECIALLY BY MINISTER FINANCE SEKHONYANA, WHO HEADED GOL TEAM. GOL IS ELATED AT ITS SUCCESS IN GETTING SUCH LARGE COMMITMENT, ESPECIALLY 4 MILLION RAND FOR INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT. THIS IS FIRST BREAKTHROUGH IN GETTING FINANCING FOR AIRPORT, WHICH IS A 9 MILLION RAND PROJECT, AND GOL EXPECTS OTHER DONORS NOW WILL BE FORTHCOMING. EEC MUST NOW BE CONSIDERED MAJOR AID DONOR TO LESOTHO.

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Message Attributes

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